

Appl. No. 10/581,474
Amendment dated 06/27/2008
Reply to Office Action of 3/28/2008

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Amendments to the Claims

1. *(currently amended)* A method for preparing a fluorocarbon elastomeric base composition comprising:

(I) mixing

(A) a silicone base comprising

(A¹) a diorganopolysiloxane containing at least 2 alkenyl groups having 2 to 20 carbon atoms, and

(A²) an optional reinforcing filler,

a curable organopolysiloxane,

(B) an optional crosslinking agent,

(C) a free radical initiator cure agent,

to form a silicone compound;

(II) mixing the silicone compound with

(D) a fluorocarbon elastomer

having a glass transition temperature (T_g) below 23°C,

(E) an optional compatibilizer selected from:

(E¹) an organic compounds which contain 2 or more olefin groups,

(E²) organopolysiloxanes containing at least 2 alkenyl groups,

(E³) olefin-functional silanes which also contain at least one hydrolyzable

group or at least one hydroxyl group attached to a silicon atom

thereof,

(E⁴) an organopolysiloxane having at least one organofunctional groups selected from
amino, amide, isocyanurate, phenol, acrylate, epoxy, and thiol groups,

(E⁵), a dehydrofluorination agent,

and any combinations of (E¹), (E²), (E³), (E⁴) and (E⁵).

(F) an organic peroxide optional catalyst;

and

(III) dynamically vulcanizing the silicone compound.

wherein the weight ratio of fluorocarbon elastomer (D) to silicone base (A) in the elastomeric base composition ranges from 95:5 to 30:70.

2. (canceled)

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3. (*currently amended*) The method of claim 12 wherein the crosslinking agent is present and is an organohydrido silicon compound.

4. (canceled)

5. (canceled)

6. (*original*) The method of claim 1 wherein the fluorocarbon elastomer comprises a copolymer of vinylidene fluoride and hexafluoropropene, a copolymer of tetrafluoroethylene and propylene, a terpolymer of vinylidene fluoride, hexafluoropropene, and tetrafluoroethene, or a terpolymer of vinylidene fluoride, tetrafluoroethene, and perfluoromethylvinyl ether.

7. (canceled)

8. (canceled)

9. (canceled)

10. (*currently amended*) The method of claim 19 wherein steps II and III are performed in a extruder in <2 minutes.

11. (canceled)

12. (canceled)

13. (canceled)